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SECURITY INFORMATION

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C E N T R A L I N T E L L I G E N C E A G E N C Y

18 February 1953

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED RESTATEMENT OF PROBLEM FOR SE-37:  
PROBABLE EFFECTS OF VARIOUS POSSIBLE COURSES OF  
ACTION WITH RESPECT TO COMMUNIST CHINA

THE PROBLEM

1. To examine the current status and effectiveness of controls on trade with Communist China, to examine the short and long term effects on the capabilities of the Chinese Communist regime of the following courses of action taken separately or in combination: (a) a complete embargo; (b) a naval blockade; (c) a naval blockade combined with bombardment of transportation facilities in Communist China; and (d) a Chinese Nationalist effort at blockade and aerial bombardment.
2. To estimate Communist reactions to these measures.

\* Whether or not the courses of action considered in this paper would be politically feasible or even desirable in the light of their economic repercussions on the non-Communist world is beyond the scope of this estimate. The means by which a Western embargo, blockade, and/or bombardment could be implemented is also beyond the scope of this paper.

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